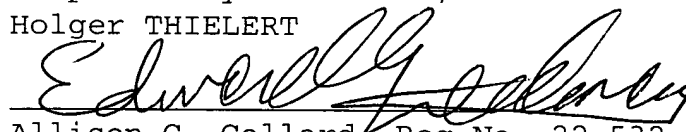


REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1 and the claims have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,
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Date of Deposit - January 11, 2005

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Maria Guastella